

Appl. No. 09/729,939
Amdt. dated July 11, 2006
Reply to office action of April 5, 2006

JUL 11 2006

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed April 5, 2006. Claims 1-3, 8-14, 16-27, 29-34 and 36-37 were rejected as obvious in view of the combination of U.S. Pat. No. 5,438,517 ("Sennott") and U.S. Pat. No. 6,868,175 ("Yamamoto"), Claims 4, 15, 28 and 35 were rejected as obvious in view of the combination of Sennott, Yamamoto and U.S. Pat. No. 6,639,592 ("Dayanand"), and Claims 5-7 were rejected as obvious in view of the combination of Sennott, Yamamoto and U.S. Pat. No. 6,253,164 ("Rohm").

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application. Applicants submit that Claims 1-37 are in condition for allowance.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Applicants' Claims 1-3, 8-14, 16-27, 29-34 and 36-37 were rejected as obvious in view of the combination of Sennott and Yamamoto, Claims 4, 15, 28 and 35 were rejected as obvious in view of the combination of Sennott, Yamamoto and Dayanand, and Claims 5-7 were rejected as obvious in view of the combination of Sennott, Yamamoto and Rohm. Please find enclosed herewith a Declaration under 37 CFR 1.131 showing that the Applicants, Rajashri Joshi, Ole Henry Dorum and Vijaya Israni, were co-inventors of the invention claimed in the present application prior to the Yamamoto patent.

Accordingly, the Yamamoto patent is not available as prior art against the claims of the present application. Thus, Applicants request that the rejection of pending Claims 1-37 be withdrawn.

Petition for Extension of Time

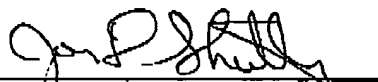
Included with this response is a request for an extension of time to reply to the office action dated April 5, 2006. Included with this response is an authorization for payment of the fee associated with this request.

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Conclusion

With the present response, all the issues in the Office Action mailed April 5, 2006 have been addressed. Applicant submits that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. If any issues remain, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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